

800 ICI jobs to go at Teesside plants

More than 800 jobs will be lost as three ICI chemical plants are run down next year.

ICI, which announced the anticipated loss of 780 jobs at two plants at Billingham and 40 at Wilton, both on Teesside yesterday, blamed the cutback on a slump in the nylon fibres industry.

A spokesman said: "People are not going to be sacked. They will be redeployed or allowed to retire early, and any men who want to leave will be able to do so."

He added: "We are going to step up redeployment outside the industry and help people in any way possible to get new jobs".

Mr Douglas Jeffels, local secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, described the news as "shattering".

ICI said the nylon salt and nylon chemical works at Billingham would be phased out

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